

MEETING SUMMARY
PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, December 6, 2002

The forty-third meeting of the Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) was held on Thursday, December 6, 2002, at the Department of Pesticide Regulation, 1001 I Street, Training Rooms 1 and 2, Sacramento, California, 95814.

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT (Based on Sign-In Sheets):

Paul E Helliker, Department of Pesticide Regulation
Karen Heisler, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 9
Mark Shelton, California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo
Mark Tognazzini, California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association
Robert Bugg, UC Davis - SAREP
Rick Melnicoe, UC Davis – Director, Dept. of Environmental Toxicology
Rebecca Sisco, Western Region IR-4 Program, UC – Davis
Joel Nelsen, California Citrus Mutual
Pete Price, Price Consulting
Mark Cady, Community Alliance for Family Farmers
Kim Crum, California Agricultural Production Consultants Association
Cliff Ohmart, Lodi Woodbridge Wine Grape Commission
Robert Ehn, California Plant Health Association
Laurie Nelson, Consumer Specialty Products Association

ABSENT MEMBERS (Based on Sign-In Sheets):

Maxwell Norton, UC Cooperative Extension Merced County
Mel Androus, California Commodity Committee
Robert Baker, Pest Control Operators of California
Steve Pavich, Organic Farmers

INTERESTED PARTIES PRESENT (Based on Sign-In Sheets):

Kevin Keefer, CPHA
Barbara Todd, CDFA
Terry Cage, CAAA
Artie Lawyer
Roberta Firoved, CRC

DPR Staff :

Veda Federighi	Tobi Jones
Linda Irokawa-Otani	Nan Gorder
Bob Elliott	Liz Pelham
Angelica Welsh	Naomi Fualau

AGENDA ITEMS

1. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AND AMENDMENT TO MEETING SUMMARY.

Paul Helliker (Helliker) opened the meeting with introductions.

2. AB 780 REPORT.

Helliker updated the committee on the status of the AB 780 report. The AB 780 report will be incorporated into the 2003 budget. The Governor's budget was good for DPR in 2002, but not for the 2003/04 fiscal year. Last year, DPR was looking at 48 vacant positions at the end of June. To date, DPR has lost 42 of those vacant positions. The loss was across the board, and the lost positions do not include the recently vacated position of the Legislative Director. DPR is expecting to get approval from the Governor's office to fill that position. More information on these will be covered in the draft report, and recommendations will match what was in the Governor's budget next year. The final version of the report will be out in January. All written comments will be reflected in the report index. Helliker asked the committee's feedback on any recommendations for cuts and revenue resources. Helliker explained that DPR's base funding is a combination of mixed and general funds. The base funding level is based on the needs of DPR.

3. 2003 REGULATIONS (RULEMAKING CALENDAR)

(Initial Draft of 2003 Rulemaking Calendar was provided to the committee.) Helliker updated the committee on rulemaking actions that DPR were to take on during the next 12-18 months. He announced that the final 2003 rulemaking calendar will be ready in January after a review with CDFA. Paul briefly highlighted each item on the draft rulemaking calendar.

4. CLOPYRALID

Tobi Jones, Assistant Director for DPR's Division of Registration and Health Evaluation, gave a presentation on clopyralid and compost, and the implementation of AB 2356. The presentation included an overview of clopyralid, its registered use on crops, and its use on lawns that could impact the quality of compost. To address the clopyralid issues, DPR initiated cancellation of clopyralid on residential lawn use, and DPR and the California Integrated Waste Management Board convened stakeholder meetings to gather information on the uses and impacts of clopyralid. Composters initiated legislation (AB 2356) to address potential harm to the compost industry. AB 2356 defines the use for clopyralid, identifies the legal sellers, set limitations on sales for clopyralid labeled for lawn/turf use, and finally, provides for DPR to make a determination on which lawn and turf use of clopyralid that will not likely result in persistent residue by April 1, 2003. For those uses not included in the determinations, DPR will either impose restrictions on those uses or cancel them.

5. ALMOND BOARD PEST MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE GRANT

The committee discussed the obligation of a commodity group to its cooperators listed in a grant proposal. As in the case of the Almond Board, part of the approval of its grant application was based on the successful history of the Community Alliance with Family Farmers (listed as their cooperator). Currently, there is no obligation (implied/legal) to require DPR to insist on the original partners. The committee further discussed DPR's role, through PMAC, in (1) acting as a negotiator between two parties, and (2) establishing guidelines and policy to address similar situations in the future.

Suggestions from the committee:

- Clearly define role of PMAC as mediator resource.
- Clearly define "outreach".
- Clearly state in the RFP that the listed parties in RFP are the approved players.
- Clearly define "decision making" process.
- How to measure success.

In addition to the committee's recommendations, Helliker will meet with the Almond Board to convey to them the committee's concerns with the success of the project. Helliker will ask for a status report of the project. It was suggested by the committee that the status report cover what they project for next year, and explain how they would achieve their goal. Helliker will report back to the committee.

6. OTHER BUSINESS AND ADJOURN

Role of PMAC as an Educator:

The committee suggested that PMAC could recommend speakers for seminars and decide when to have those seminars. PMAC could have an expanding audience based on topics (a list will be created and added on to it). Helliker suggested that the committee put a concept together on how and when to do those seminars. A question was asked whether the seminars should be done during PMAC, or in conjunction with PMAC. (*No suggested answers*). The committee asked Helliker, that given the lack of fund, what does Helliker see this role (PMAC as an educator) do for DPR. Helliker reiterated that for those people who are interested in policy issues and other issues in DPR, they have an opportunity to participate in an advisory committee for the Department. What does the committee think? Is the committee structured in the way that it should be? Paul was asked if it would be helpful for the committee to be of help since DPR's budget will be 25% less than last year. Helliker, again, reiterated that he would welcome the committee's help.

More questions and suggestions....

- How can we assess that the "regulatory process" is working?
- Look at utility of PMAC in relation to the goals and mission of DPR
- Put on the agenda "what is best way" to grapple with this – what is big picture, and what/how to deal with what we have now

- Potential topics: organophosphate toxicity, nitrate concentrates, atrazine on leopard frogs, argentine ants, exotic pets, commodity expansion, etc...

Requests for copies of the PMAC meeting summary or reports distributed at the PMAC meeting should be directed to Naomi Fualau at (916) 327-4424, via facsimile at (916) 324-1452 or e-mail at <nfualau@cdpr.ca.gov> or may be mailed to:

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